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OR DE DINDIQU  
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# The People.

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

1,025.—ONE PENNY. [G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

LONDON, SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 1901.

Publishing Office, MILFORD LANE,  
Advertising 22, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, W.C.

SPECIAL  
DAY EDITION.

HE WAR.  
VAKFONTEIN  
FIGHT.

WET THREATENS  
CAPE COLONY.

BOTHA NEGOTIATIONS.

NO FURTHER NEWS CONCERNING  
ACTION AT VAKFONTEIN BEYOND A  
SIGNAL LIST OF THE BRITISH ARMY  
SOLDIERS KILLED OR WOUNDED  
FROM THE WAR OFFICE YESTERDAY.

UNDERSTOOD THAT DAYS MAY ELAPSE  
BEFORE THE FULL LIST OF OUR LOSSES IS  
MADE IN LONDON AND CHECKED.

AN EFFORT WILL BE MADE, HOWEVER, TO  
REVEAL THE NAMES OF ALL RANKS AT THE  
MOMENT POSSIBLE.

WAS A FIGHT NEAR DUMPLAIS  
UNCERTAIN, AS SHOWN BY  
MANUALISTS.

WAS RECEIVED FROM LORENZO MARQUES CONCERNING THE REPORTS THAT THE BOERS HAD  
BEGUN A NEW INVASION OF CAPE  
COLONY.

DOES IT, AS IS ASSERTED, IN  
TRY TO CROSS THE CAPE FRONTIER WITH  
MEN.

NOTICE PUBLISHED AT CAPE TOWN  
THAT 20,000 BOERS AND 10,000  
REFUGEES ARE IN CAPE NATAL  
IN THE ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

AIN WRECKING IN  
THE TRANSVAAL.

THE MARAUDERS WERE  
DRIVEN OFF.

WENDON, JUNE 1.—DETAILS HAVE  
BEEN RECEIVED OF ANOTHER DEEP ATTEMPT  
ON THE PART OF THE BOERS

TO FIRE ON THE RETAGUE LINE.

BOER LEADER HINDON LED A  
PART OF HIS FIGHTING FORCE

ATTENDED BY ALL HIS FOLLOWERS

ATTENDED BY ALL HIS





## OUR OMNIBUS.

## THE CONDUCTOR.

The meteorological department was not so much at fault as the professional prophet of a contemporary who seemed fairly to roll in the storm and stress which he predicted for Whit-Monday. When you prophecy it is a safer thing to foretell the end of the world at a very remote date than to run the risk of witnessing your possible failure. Never was Whitmonday so hampered with terrible forecasts of rain, and wind, and thunder, and lightning, as the bright and sunny holiday of the last week. Anyhow the forecasts did



not seem to trouble the London public. They are getting used to sensational predictions heralded in big head lines. The trains rarely, if ever, carried more passengers into the country as during this Whitmonday, nor have places of entertainment been more liberally patronised. More satisfactory still was the evidence of a higher spirit of enjoyment than has in some years characterised the great Bank Holiday of the past week. On Whit-Monday night it was as usual, as years ago it was common, to see a drunken man in the streets. The German players have already had their season here, and therefore will not come into competition with our native players this summer, which is a good thing, for the season has been none too prosperous.

Brixton, Camberwell, and Camden Town are to be congratulated, inasmuch as they are to have the Benson company in their midst during the next few weeks. The company would do well to make a complete suburban tour every year, by way of supplement to their provincial progress. I am sure, too, they would do a good educational work. Whatever its limitations, the troupe gives sound and dependable representations of the plays it attempts, and its historical "cycle"—from "King John" to "Richard III."—is particularly valuable.

The revival of "Faust and Marguerite" in the country is interesting. It is a long time since any serious play on the subject has been seen either in the provinces or in London. We see Faust and Marguerite often enough in opera or in burlesque, but only rarely in drama. I think the very last Marguerite I ever saw in such circumstances—putting aside, of course, the Lyceum "Faust"—was the late Carlo Leclercq, who played the part when she was no longer a young woman, just as Mrs. Stirling played Lady Teal in when she was over sixty, as I myself can testify.

## BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

My remarks on the predilection of the sparrow and the avocation of the thinning out of its ranks in recent issue of "The People" has brought forth a protest from a correspondent of Royston, Herts, who is "surprised that I should think the sparrow a hardy and prolific bird." He, however, admits that this "may be true," but after many years of careful observation he has failed to find it more hardy or prolific than any other bird of the finch family, and in support of his statement goes into figures as regards the eggs. Seven eggs to the clutch, he says, is "the unknown quantity, while two to five eggs" are "not frequently found, and that really the clutch" runs from two to five eggs." He has also had "many thousands" of eggs under his observation, but he has failed to secure one genuine clutch of seven eggs. He also talks of the constant persecution the bird receives, and attributes the secret of its increase to its good sense, becoming "urban and bucolic in severe weather."

Mr. W. S. Harding (president) presided over the 2nd annual (and very successful) dinner of the Social Brothers, held last week at their headquarters, the Prince Regent, Dartmouth-st., S.E., reported by Mr. H. Richardson (V.P.), Dr. J. C. Wilkinson, Mr. J. D. Henley, "Old Isaac," Mr. W. J. Wade (Central Association), and other prominent anglers. Some excellent music was rendered by members and friends, Mr. Ellingham being at the pianoforte. The president and officers were warmly toasted, and the club shown to be in a thoroughly sound condition. The presentation of a valuable aneroid barometer to Mr. George Cooper, who has most ably discharged the duties of hon. secretary for the past six years, and to whom Mr. A. J. Nash promises to be a worthy successor, formed one of the most pleasing features of an evening enjoyed throughout.

A Littlechamption correspondent informs me that sea fishing is good there now, and by boat, and mullet are among the fish being taken. Some days since one boat anchored about a mile out accounted for 86 bream, one whiting, and one gurnard, none of the bream being under 1lb., and the largest 1lb. 6oz. Two rods only were engaged, and the bait used was mussels and lug-worms.

One of the most interesting and amusing, and at the same time rare animals at present in the Zoo is Humboldt's woolly monkey, or lagothrix, as it is called—of which a single specimen is to be found in one of the sides cages in the interior of the monkey house. Contrary to what one might expect from its somewhat surly countenance, it is a most gentle creature, and appears to have not the least bit of vice about it, and, moreover, shows great affection for its keeper and those that treat it well. Its fur is dense and woolly, and entirely black, with the exception of that on the back, which is black washed with greyish. The naked skin on the face, feet, and under tail-tip is quite black. This monkey is of rather large size, its head and body measuring over 2ft. in length and tail almost as long. In height it stands about 15in. Only about a dozen of these animals have been exhibited in the Zoo since 1883, when a pair arrived.

Humboldt's lagothrix is an inhabitant of the Amazon valley, where the great traveller whose name it bears discovered it at the beginning of the last century, on the Orinoco River. The impression made by Miss Wanbrugh in "Trevalawny of the Wells" was greatly deepened by her Sophie Fulgarney in "The Gay" (the day, and that of the United Brothers,

"Love Queen," of which she was certainly the central figure. The latter performance put her in the front rank of comedians, and she became an actress to be reckoned with.

I wish her every success as a "star," and yet am a little sorry that she has accepted that position. I think she would have done well to have waited a little longer. One swallow does not make a summer, and one Sophie Fulgarney does not make a career. The young lady has great talent as well as a piquant personality, but has she versatility? Has she strength as well as piquancy? Her sister Violet has made success in several classes of rôle; her range is from tragedy to farce. Miss Irene may have a reserve of power, but up to the present moment her successes have been made in comedy only.

It was a kindly thought of Mrs. Langtry to invite the members of "the profession" to take tea with her, and listen to some pleasant music in her brilliant new theatre. The humbler as well as the most distinguished were welcomed with equal cordiality, the presentation of their visiting cards being sufficient to secure admission. No one, of course, could possibly fail to admire the new Imperial, for new that the foyer, the lobbies, the lounge, and the refreshment-rooms are in order, it is one of the handsomest playhouses in London—in some respects, perhaps, it is the handsomest and coolest.

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abundant, and was present in enormous troops in the forests over nearly the whole of Upper Amazonia; but owing to the persecution it has received at the hands of the Indians, who look upon its flesh as a great delicacy, it is now met with only infrequently in the lowland forests, and in much lessened numbers in those of the highlands. On account of its mild temper it is often made a pot of, but being a delicate animal it rarely lives any length of time in captivity. In a wild state it is not very quick in its movements, but, aided with its prehensile tail, it climbs about the branches of the trees with remarkable ease.

I have received the following note from a correspondent of Woodland-nd., Norwood:—"What I think to be a unique event in the feathered world has just happened with me—namely, a pigeon in my possession has been sitting on a couple of game-hunter's eggs, and has brought off the brood, and is attending to the two little chicks to perfection."

It is not, as my correspondent supposes, a very unusual occurrence for pigeons to hatch out eggs of other birds, and it often happens where pigeons and fowls (hens, chickens, ducks, etc.) are kept together, that they sit upon and incubate each other's eggs; but it does not follow that the foster-parents are always successful in administering to the wants of the young birds, because in some cases their food is different. I have kept pigeons and have had ordinary hens' and hantams' eggs hatched by them and vice versa, and on one occasion I recorded in this column a case of a hen hatching the eggs of a wood-pigeon in the pigeon's own nest, in a tree at some considerable distance from the ground. This, however, turned out to be a very unfortunate affair, as, naturally, the hen expected the young to feed themselves almost as soon as they were hatched, and when she found out, after her great exertions in climbing the tree so many times to feed them, that the young pigeons were helpless for so long, she discarded them.

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The additions to the Zoological Society's menagerie during the week ending May 29 include a grey ichneumon, a woolly opossum, a violet-necked oriole, two suns, a raptor-billed curassow, a Demoiselle crane, two summer ducks, two mandarin ducks, a Guilding's amazon, a Duke of Bedford's deer, a tahr (born in the menagerie), seven stinkpot mud tarpanines, two American glass-snakes, a red-flanked luiker, and a Japanese deer (born in the menagerie).

## OLD IZAAK.

Very few trout have been taken from the Thames during the past week, for which the weather and holiday traffic will sufficiently account. Mr. W. Gomm, live baiting with a large bleak, has taken a 2lb. rainbow trout, and several good fish have been landed in the upper stretches of the river. The swans, which were housed at the expense of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, are on the water again, and all reports indicate that their absence has been very beneficial to the fishery.

Thames trout-trotting at the best is an uncertain work, and it will be found that the greater number of fish are caught by relatively few anglers, who devote days to discovering their haunts, note their feeding times, and wait an opportunity of taking them. Nearly all are caught live baiting or spinning, for the big ones ignore a fly, and worm fishing is prohibited. Mr. Senior "Redspinner" of "The Field" long since suggested stocking suitable stretches with fish likely to rise to a fly, which, coupled with a relative reduction of themissible standard, would afford anglers whose opportunities are limited, far more chances of sport. All fish under 16in. in length have now to be put back. The Lee fishing, so far, has proved almost a blank.

Prospects are not particularly favourable for the coarse fishing season, which opens in the Thames, Stort, Stour, Ouse, Nene, and other rivers governed by the Mundella Act a fortnight hence. The past season has been decidedly discouraging, and the trout-trotting at present has not come up to expectation anywhere. Rain is badly wanted in most cases, after which better conditions may be reasonably looked forward to.

Mr. W. S. Harding (president) presided over the 2nd annual (and very successful) dinner of the Social Brothers, held last week at their headquarters, the Prince Regent, Dartmouth-st., S.E., reported by Mr. H. Richardson (V.P.), Dr. J. C. Wilkinson, Mr. J. D. Henley, "Old Isaac," Mr. W. J. Wade (Central Association), and other prominent anglers. Some excellent music was rendered by members and friends, Mr. Ellingham being at the pianoforte. The president and officers were warmly toasted, and the club shown to be in a thoroughly sound condition. The presentation of a valuable aneroid barometer to Mr. George Cooper, who has most ably discharged the duties of hon. secretary for the past six years, and to whom Mr. A. J. Nash promises to be a worthy successor, formed one of the most pleasing features of an evening enjoyed throughout.

The Penrhyn quarry dispute seems no nearer a finish. The men held a mass meeting last Monday, to which none but quarrymen were admitted, and unanimously passed a resolution to "continue the struggle until they secured an honourable settlement." No doubt it will be remembered that the late permanent Secretary of the Board of Trade, Sir Courtney Boyle, offered his services to the Penrhyn dispute of 1896, and the reception he met with did not encourage him to persevere on the present occasion; but now we have a new permanent secretary, Mr. Francis Hopwood, and there is no reason why he should not make a fresh attempt. The men are quite willing to arbitrate, and perhaps Lord Penrhyn may be willing now, though he refused before.

The first general meeting of the Federated Master Printers' Association was held on Tuesday at the Belgrave Restaurant. The president said that "the amalgamation had not been actuated by any hostile feeling towards the interests of employees generally. An association on similar lines had been found to work very successfully in America, hence the foundation of the British organization which aimed at the protection of the employers' interests in Parliament and elsewhere." Elsewhere is a good word, and I fancy that will be where the master's interests will be protected much more than they will be in Parliament, and it is a great pity that masters and men in the printing trade, as in many other trades, are not on the same side, and that no one there can speak for them.

The Stockwell Angling Society, a thoroughly go-ahead club, announces their removal to more commodious quarters, the society's future location being the Duke of Cambridge, Thornhill, South Lambeth-nd., S.W. They are to have a visit from the South London club on Tuesday next in their new quarters, and it goes without saying that they will have a full room.

Dinners are still the order of the day, and that of the United Brothers,

to be held on Thursday, June 13, at the Drury-lane, Drury-lane Broadway, promises to be among the most successful of the season. The Mayor of Drury-lane will preside, and "Old Isaac" occupies the vice-chair.

A serious attempt is being made to close the Aves at Faversham on Sundays to the Birmingham anglers, who are suffering in vegetation (as London anglers did in a similar case) from the misdeeds of on-lookers or excursionists wholly unconnected with the craft. The anglers is probably one of the quietest of sports, and his recreation makes it neutral, that he should be so. Probably, upon reflection, the good people of Faversham will come to the same conclusion, so that, subject to restrictions as to enclosure (if needful), the honest angler may ply his rod in peace.

The monthly delegate meeting of the Central Association of London Angling Clubs takes place on Monday next, at their headquarters, the Bedford Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden. The chair will be occupied by Mr. C. A. Medcalf (president) at 8 p.m. sharp.

Both London associations are now busy over the issue of privilege tickets for the coming season, and their secretaries have, doubtless, a lively time of it. The Central Association (founded in 1870) has not only preserved its individuality, but shown a regular and progressive increase in the number of its adherents, adding more than 500 to its roll during the past year. It not only rents some miles of excellent ground, and subscribes liberally to protection work, but by the small charge made for membership does much to keep the railway privilege intact. The Anglers' Association, showing a decrease in membership for the year, is now adopting some of the Central plan, it may be hoped with advantage to itself, and to the benefit of the many anglers enrolled with it.

It is melancholy to hear that the little son of Charles Howard, composer of "Two Little Girls in Blue," and many other popular songs, was found dead in New York, and the magic slate before whom he was taken was forced to send him to an orphanage. Six or seven years ago "Two Little Girls" was one of the songs of the year, and there must have been a fortune in it. But Charles Howard had sold it to the publishers for £2, so that although they paid him another £100 owing to the enormous sale, no substantial benefit accrued to him. It was the same with most of his other songs, and in consequence he left his wife and family destitute at his death, which occurred two years ago.

There is no truth in the reports that Dr. Jenkins is seriously ill. The great violinist is merely affected slightly by the remains of a cold acquired just before he left England for Germany. He is able to take outdoor exercise, and says he feels very well.

On Monday afternoon Mr. Haydn Coffin will give his eighth concert recital at Stowey Hall. In addition to the attraction of the popular artist himself, there will be Mr. Maurice Parkes, Mr. Herbert Harvey, Mr. M. B. Irving, Mr. Arthur Playfair, M. Johansen Wolf, and M. J. Holliman, so the programme presents a perfect galaxy of brilliant masculine talent, while the ladies are conspicuous by their absence. But they make up for that as a rule at Mr. Coffin's concerts by almost crowding out the men in the audience.

Another concert which is generally one of the best of the London seasons will be Mr. Landen Ronald's at St. James's Hall on June 27. The clever young musician always has nearly a score of the most eminent singers and instrumentalists of the day, and also introduces some of his own charming compositions. His list is not yet arranged for the 27th, but it will be equal to those of former years.

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The "To Doom" which Sir Arthur Sullivan left in the hands of the authorities at St. Paul's Cathedral is rightly, set in English words, and occupies less than half-an-hour in performance. I understand that the accompaniment is for organ and some military instruments, and in one part based on the deceased composer's most famous hymn, "O'erward Christian Soldiers." The "To Doom" will not be heard publicly until the declaration of peace in South Africa.

Miss Ethel Josephine Mass, the only child of the once celebrated tenor, Joseph Mass, was married last week to Mr. William Short, of Birmingham. The late Sir John Stainer has left property amounting to upwards of £25,000.

Mr. Gran has re-engaged Madame Calvé for his New York opera season in December.

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## JACK ALLROUND.

THE PEASANT AND JACK ALLROUND.—The door to be stained must be well washed with hot water and washed over, so soap being used. All crevices and old spots of paint must be removed. The latter can be scraped off with broken glass and powdered glass, which all the portion of the door to be stained should be smoothed and made even and well powdered over, always working with the grain of the wood. When this is prepared carefully mark out the design to be stained, to receive the stain round the same to receive the stain. The stain is to be applied in the High Court of Justice are remitted for the assessment of damages, and it is a matter of general knowledge that this quality old-world building has been the scene of some of the most remarkable cases of damage or removal of property, which have ever been placed for settlement before a court of justice. The late Mr. Under-Sheriff Burchell, who retired from the position some months ago, was one of the most striking and lovable personalities which ever adorned a judicial bench. His son now occupies his late father's position thereby bringing down the presidency of the court to the fourth generation of Burchells. The late Mr. Burchell presided over the destinies of the court for nearly 40 years, and in legal circles it is admitted that he has had to answer damages in more actions for "breach" than the whole of his Majesty's judges put together. Amongst such legal luminaries of the past as Lord Russell of Killowen (then Sir Charles Russell), and Sir Frank Lockwood, the deceased, gentleman earned the sobriquet of "The Champion Rival of Broken Heart." In 1884, the late Under-Sheriff secured

A RECORD "JACK ALLROUND."—For when he took his seat he had before him an imposing array of six fair damsels, who sought monetary damage from their faithless swains. Never before, or since, have such a number of cases of the kind been adjudicated upon in an English court of law at a single sitting. On one occasion he had the unique experience of having to hear a case in which damages for a "frenzy" was brought by a wife against her husband. The marriage had been a unhappy one, and the wife being a minor, her mother, who was in ignorance of the fact that the nuptial knot had not been already tied, stood as "best friend." The case was opened by counsel at length, but when the young lady was placed in the box, the first question asked by the defendant in cross-examination was, "Are you not my lawful wife?" The answer, accompanied with a smile, was simply "Yes," but while it convulsed the occupants of the court, it practically disengaged the under-sheriff and the now late mother-in-law, who flounced out of the court shouting "I'll never own him." But the case having come by default, the under-sheriff directed the jury to find a verdict for plaintiff, with a farthing damage. He gave the smiling pair his hearty "Good-bye" and wished them a happy married life. Mr. Burchell had

an enormous no-serve letter, for he always considered that those "sweet nothings" had little bearing upon the cases before him. On one occasion, however, armed with a brief containing 2,714 epithets of the heart, written by a love-sick tailor, marched into the court, and on Mr. Burchell, inquiring whether there was any correspondence in the case, the brief and budget of letters were placed on the desk before him. He immediately took back in his chair with a sigh, and needless to say, all the letters were not read. Some months ago the social Under-Sheriff retired from his position, and his death occurred on Sunday last at a ripe old age. At the sitting of the court this week Mr. Stephen Lynch made feeling reference to Mr. Burchell's death.

MOUNTING P.O.P. PHOTOGRAPHER.—I have to thank my correspondent "Chaps," who fears the incautious I gave in issue of April 22 for aluminized paper may be misleading to the amateur photographers who now so largely employ the well-known P.O.P. for printing from their negatives. I was then replying to correspondents who wished for a mountant for the aluminized paper, which I always use myself. I am now very pleased to give, and greatly obliged to my correspondent who recommends the following as a good mountant for the P.O.P.: Glycerine, 8 parts; arrowroot, 12 parts; alcohol, 8 parts; water, 16 parts; pure carbolic acid, a few drops. Boil the glycerine in half the water (which should be cold) for a few hours, and then, by means of a hot-water bath, dissolve it. Make the arrowroot into a smooth paste with the rest of the cold water, and raise to boiling point till it "turns." Mix, and add the alcohol and the acid. To mount the prints, soak till limp in cold water. Lay a print, face downwards, on a piece of clean glass. Blot off excess of water. Apply the paste smoothly, lift print from glass, and press into contact with a square. Then follow: "A strong mountant is made thus:—Distilled, 10oz.; sugar, 1oz.; water, one pint; carbolic acid, 10 drops. Use for the other."—

OLD-AGE PENSIONS. MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S APPEAL TO FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.—As an honorary member of the National Independent Order of Odd-Fellows, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain addressed the Movable Committee at Birmingham. His subject was the old one of old-age pensions. His address was mainly devoted to the possibility of reconstituting, through the means of the great friendly societies, and carrying to a practical conclusion, the proposals for a system of

STATE-ASSISTED OLD-AGE PENSIONS for those people who by thrift had themselves made provision in that direction. He declared himself as strongly opposed as ever to any system of universal old-age pensions, as being unjust to the taxpayer and destructive of the principles of thrift and self-provision, but he strongly advocated some system by which the State would contribute something to the

SOOT RINGER AND DAMP WAX.—In every gallon of water dissolve 1lb. of mottled soap, and with a large flat brush spread this liquid carefully and steadily over the brickwork. It must be laid on without fraying or getting into a hollow on the surface. This I find best done by always brushing in one direction, never working up and down. This soap wash should be left for 24 hours to get dry. In four gallons of water mix 1lb. of alum, allow it to stand for 24 hours, and then apply it in the same way over the soap wash. It is no use attempting this in damp or rainy weather; it must be absolutely dry when you work.

## ALLEGATIONS AGAINST A SCHOOLMASTER.

A coroner's jury at Canterbury further investigated the circumstances attending the death of a little girl, named Frances Mary Mabel Goldmark, daughter of a sergeant of the 5th Lancers. On April 10 deceased became sick, and complained that her school teacher had hit her on the head. On April 22 she was removed to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, where she died on May 25. The medical evidence went to show that deceased died from inflammation of the brain, but the doctors were unable to determine from what cause the inflammation arose.

The chief master at the school said he never saw or heard of the girl's teacher (Corpl. Harrison) hitting children at school. Deceased's sister said she saw Harrison hit her sister on the head on April 22, but Harrison, on being called, denied that he had ever injured a child. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes, and exonerated the master.

NEW LAWS IN GERMANY.—Berlin, June 1.—The official "Reichszeitung" to-day publishes the new law dealing with the commercial relations of Germany with the British Empire, and a law modifying the existing statute regarding the fine now by merchant vessels and the rights it confers. Both laws are dated May 29.—Bente.

## FATIGUELESS SWAIMS.

## DEATH OF THE "REBELS OF BROKEN HEARTS."

The death has recently occurred of Mr. Wm. Burchell, who for upwards of 40 years sat as a member in the London Sheriff's Court. This interesting building is situated at a corner of Red Lion-street, and its principal approach is through a court in which divers out-of-town men and chandlers carry on most of their lucrative business. Here all cases which go to trial in the High Court of Justice are remitted for the assessment of damages, and it is a matter of general knowledge that this quiet, old-world building has been the scene of some of the most remarkable cases of damage or removal of property, which have ever been placed for settlement before a court of justice. The late Mr. Under-Sheriff Burchell, who retired from the position some months ago, was one of the most striking and lovable personalities which ever adorned a judicial bench. His son now occupies his late father's position thereby bringing down the presidency of the court to the fourth generation of Burchells. The late Mr. Burchell presided over the destinies of the court for nearly 40 years, and in legal circles it is admitted that he has had to answer damages in more actions for "breach" than the whole of his Majesty's judges put together. Amongst such legal luminaries of the past as Lord Russell of Killowen (then Sir Charles Russell), and Sir Frank Lockwood, the deceased, gentleman earned the sobriquet of "The Champion Rival of Broken Heart." In 1884, the late Under-Sheriff secured

## LONDON'S ITALIAN COLONIES.

## PECULIAR "WALKS OF LIFE."

Although, as we stated last week, the Gaffron Hill district, or "Little Italy," as it has long been designated, has quite recently been a large extent depopulated, as far as its unsavoury nooks and crannies are concerned, and hundreds of Italians have been compelled to live in other parts of the metropolis, this forming distinctive colonies elsewhere, there is much of interest and picturesque scenes left for the visitor to study. The days of crowded houses held by Padrones, which rent was not only charged for Savoyard, the ice-cream vendor, the organ-grinder, and the fortuneteller, but the "board and residence" of the monkey, and even the box of white mice had to be accounted for by their timid keepers each night have passed away, and more comfortable and healthy dwellings have taken their place. The same signs of activity, however, remain in the neighbourhood, and numerous are the peculiar callings catered for by those who are fortunate enough to obtain lodgings of their own. The Padrons system still obtains to a large extent

the work of what is known as "asphalting" the streets peculiarly their own. The work is particularly laborious, and would seem to be plentiful, judging from the frequent picking up of London's great arteries. Consequently these representatives of the Italian colonies of the metropolis, who may be said to earn their bread by the sweat of their brow, will have to wait a considerable time before they join the ranks of the great unemployed.

## GRUESOME FIND IN BIRMINGHAM.

## 31 BABIES' BODIES DISCOVERED.

Early on Thursday the Birmingham police visited the premises of an undertaker at Birmingham, and in the cellar they found 31 bodies of infants in various stages of decomposition. They were in ordinary soap boxes, and the houses and contents were removed to the mortuary. William Knowles, an undertaker's widow, was later charged on suspicion of causing their death and was remanded, but it is believed that they were all stillborn. It was put forward on prisoner's behalf that there was a custom of paying £1. or £2. to undertakers to dispose of the body of a stillborn child. The police only found four medical certificates at prisoner's house, but she said the others had been destroyed.

## TEENWINKLE DOMESTIC TRAGEDY.

A shooting tragedy occurred at Garstang, a small town between Preston and Lancaster, on Tuesday night. Mrs. Simpson, the wife of a miller, living at Sandholme-nd. Cottages, drowning her three children in a washing-tub. The children were aged five years, four years, and six months. Mr. Simpson left his home on Tuesday, his wife, a woman aged about 35, and the children being in the house. The husband did not return until 10 at night, when he discovered that during his absence his three children had been drowned. They had apparently been placed in a "dolly" tub full of water, and it is supposed that they were immersed singly at intervals; for the body of the youngest child was warm when discovered. All the bodies had afterwards been placed in bed, and, except that their coats had been removed, were fully dressed. The wife, whose mind is believed to have become unbalanced, was subsequently arrested. She was brought before the Garstang magistrates next day, and formally remanded. The husband is in a dimmed condition.

## MURDER AND VENDETTA.

The inquest on the bodies of the three children was held on Thursday, and resulted in a verdict of wilful murder against the mother, the jury at the same time expressing the opinion that at the time seemed drowned her children she was not accountable for her actions. Later in the day Mrs. Simpson was brought before the magistrate and remanded for a week.

## BARRACK TRAGEDY.

## SOY BEANS SHOT DEAD AT STAINSTON.

An inquest was held at Maidstone Barracks on Pte. Rodney Bollman, aged 18, of the R. West Kent Regt., who was shot in his quarters on Tuesday. Pte. Clates stated that another private, named Marsh—who was 17 years of age, and who had only just joined the regiment—accused deceased of having stolen a watch. Deceased denied the accusation, and said all he had in his pocket were a few bullet cases, of which he handed to Marsh. The latter put the bullet (a Dum-dum) into a spare rifle which was in the room, pointed it at deceased, and fired. The bullet entered the man's head, killing him instantly. Pte. Marsh, who was in custody, was sworn, and said he did not think the bullet was a good one. He had no intention of injuring deceased, with whom he had had no previous quarrel. While he was raising the rifle it went off accidentally. The fact was elicited that deceased obtained the bullet from a volunteer who had recently returned from the front, and had found it in a box. After a lengthy consideration, the jury came to the conclusion that deceased was accidentally killed.

## MAWKING AND HIS "TIPS."

VARIOUS ANECDOTES ABOUT THE TEENWINKLE GRIMM.

The bishop who has lately obtained a committee of inquiry into affairs perhaps do not sufficiently realize on how many things besides robbing speculative persons will be. The following anecdote from "Sixty Years on the Turf" by George Hodges, is a case in point:—"The names of Hawking and the Claimant are indissolubly linked in the public memory; and how far instrumental he was in getting the alleged 'Sir Roger' convicted is well known. But it is not common property that in the beginning

## THE ASTHMA MAN.

the statement can be vouched for; a well-known and popular statesman is a regular customer of one of these fortune-tellers, as he passes on his way to St. Stephen's, on occasions when an important division is expected. To revert to profits, even the boy with the monkey and accordion will take home pretty regularly six shillings' worth of coppers a day. But, perhaps, the most lucrative of all the businesses is that adopted by the vendor of ice cream. Despite terrible tales of poisonous germs lurking within the consistency of milk, sugar, vanilla, and coriander, the average London boy and girl will invest their pocket money in this little luxury and the vendor, usually and familiarly known as "Johnny," reaps a rich harvest as a result. The sale of ice cream, especially on Bank Holiday, throughout London, is enormous, and many tons of it were prepared previous to last Monday in the neighbourhood of Ebury-st. Hill; and while huge quantities are manufactured here every week, it is stated on the authority of Father Hanning, of the Italian Church, Hoxton Garden, that no complaint as to its purity has been made by the authorities at any time. Yet another branch of Italian industry in London is that of the production of ice-cream bawbars. It is well-known fact that the vendor will not take out a bawbar which does not display some topical subject, and the pictures of khaki-clad warriors engaged in fierce encounter with a motley group of Boers, which decorated the vehicles in the days when the war was at its height, have now given place to portraits of our King and Queen. Many of the paintings nowadays are by no means without merit, and one firm in Bedford Hill has upwards of 30 men regularly engaged in this work alone. The Italian in London, however, does not confine himself to merely ministering to the wants of holiday makers and children, for there are hundreds of stalwart sons of Italy who make

## THE LAWYER.

really thought the impostor was the genuine man. This, though, is more likely.

Anyway, one Sunday Hawkins met his old friend, Mr. George Lamb, in Hyde Park, and asked him if he had seen me lately. Yes, he had. "Well," said Hawkins, "when you see him again—make it your business to see him—tell him that Tichborne is the man, and that he ought to get it on it. And so right off, Lambert, that was sorted, and Lambert took 400 to 500. I saw him in Montacute Barracks again. "By-the-way," he said, "did you ever hear of that man Tichborne?" "Yes, we took 400 to 500." Then he was worse.

## I WAS WORSE.

He's an impostor, I know just about enough to hang him. Fortunately for us, Tichborne will, and his champion, and one of the best was Mr. George Haywood, at Newmarket, when the case was all the talk of the hour, he came to our carriage and said, "No master what anyone says, I'll hang Tichborne." I'll take 50 to 100 now.

"Done," said Lambert. "Twice?" asked Haywood. "Yes. All I can say is that the Claimant must have been a very clever man to have even for a time

## THE LAWYER.

It is, of course, into to day that he had both considerable brains and immeasurable cruelty. Yet in little ways he gave himself away. Mr. Warner, of the Welsh Harp, was, at a time, one of his chief backers, and used to have him out to dine with him at Hendon. But one Sunday came disillusions. The carving-knife cut rather badly, and Mr. Warner could not eat an egg on. "Give it me," said "Sir Roger." And the doltish with which he handled carver and knife was an avro-spooner, for Mr. Warner, who, when their guest was absent from the room, said to his wife, "We're done! He's a butcher right enough."

## SALTY LONDON ROYAL BISTROHES.

—New York and Paris, and especially Paris, are noted for their bistrohes, which are small, cheap, and simple, and the food is good, and the service is rapid. The

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## VOLUNTEER GOSSIP.

It is probably too early to pronounce definitely whether the 22nd year of the Royal Military Tournament will equal in success the last half of the series of its predecessors, but the ingenuity displayed upon the various displays, particularly that which was given by the metropolis, who may be said to earn their bread by the sweat of their brow, will have to wait a considerable time before they join the ranks of the great unemployed.

## GRUESOME FIND IN BIRMINGHAM.

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## TALK OF THE PEOPLE.

## LATEST ELECTRIC FLASHES.

## HOME.

Sunday Morning. I wonder how long Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman will continue to manœuvre as a political leader. If you want to know how utterly unfitted he is for the task just read his speech at Edinburgh on Friday night, and compare it with that of a real leader. It is really pitiful Sir Richard Grey. It is really pitiful to see the way the poor old blighter about in his efforts to keep in at the pre-English and pre-Boers among his party, and how entirely he fails to gain the confidence of either.

But the most absurd thing in his speech was his attempt to deny that any serious differences exist in the Radical party on the subject of the war. Why, on the one side is Sir Edward Grey and his following—very considerate, let me tell you, and growing—who are as sound as any Unionist on the necessity of fighting to a finish and getting a satisfactory settlement once and for all; and, on the other, are men whose terms for the Boers are rather more generous than anything over South Africa has ventured to ask for. And then Sir Harry declares there are "no serious differences."

Except that it would be very unusual and that it certainly would not pay, it is a pity that some English newspaper does not give a regular round day by day of the kind of thing that is published about the war in foreign papers, and is greedily swallowed by their ignorant readers. It would serve to explain the extraordinary feeling shown against us in so many foreign countries, for there is absolutely no limit to the horrors with which we are credited, and I am sorry to say that there is a section of the American Press, from which one extracts better things, that does not hesitate to make use of their garbage.

But what does strike one as extraordinary is that the readers of these mendacities French and German prints never seem to grow suspicious when they publish things which all the world finds out a few days afterwards to be simply lies. For instance, I have before me, now an issue of a French paper for May 18, which announces the defeat of Gen. French with a loss of 80 officers and 300 men, while he himself is said to have been taken prisoner. In the same issue the capture of Gen. Baden-Powell and five batteries of Artillery is also announced. Gen. Clements is killed, and "indescribable outrages" reigns in London.

Now, by May 20, let us say, the readers of this previous journal must have found out that it was all a tissue of lies. They must have known that General Clements was alive and kicking, that neither French nor Baden-Powell had been captured, that the victories were all imaginary, and that London remained perfectly calm.

Yet I will venture to say that this discovery had not made them a whit less ready to credit the stories of Lord Kitchener's atrocities with which the paper is filled, or will make them any more suspicious of the next batch.

I am very glad to see, on the authority of a correspondent of "The Globe," that the man, Jack Hinton, who is now leading the Boer train-wreckers, is neither a renegade Englishman nor an ex-Guardian as was stated. He is, in fact, a cross-bred Portuguese, and his more respectable employment seems to have been that of a Transvaal "sarp," who has spent most of his life hanging about South African mining camps. He seems by all accounts to be just the kind of man to whom robbery and train-wrecking would be particularly congenial, and I trust there will be no folly about treating him as a "belligerent" when he is at last laid by the heels.

It is far from me to enter into the vice-versa controversy, for to that I know there is no end. But I must say that I am a good deal comforted by the annual report on the subject which has just been issued. As far as I can see from it the vast majority of the experiments seem to have been conducted so as to cause the least amount of pain possible; and there seems to be no ground for supposing that any unnecessary cruelty has been inflicted at all. Of course, the questions as to whether we have the right to use animals at all for this purpose, and whether, if so, science is advanced by doing so, are much wider ones, upon which I have no intention of entering.

The Italians are perhaps a little disappointed that the new baby is a Princess instead of a Prince. It would, they think, have been nice to have had a "King of Rome." I think, if they will look at our history, they will see reason to mitigate their disappointment. No accident was ever happier than that which sixty-four years ago placed a Princess upon the English Throne and gave us the best of Queens.

Lord George Hamilton's letter to Sir Alfred Milward on the subject of the orders recently given by the Indian Government to American firms to make the English trade unions think. In plain English, the answer amounts to the statement that the reason is because they do the work better, cheaper, and quicker—and why? Well, the American trade unions does not try to keep up wages by limiting the output, but to raise them by increasing it and improving the quality of the goods. That the whole secret, and until our trade unions grasp it we will continue to go from the same. There is no question about the ability of the workmen. Put an average English artisan under the American trade union system and he beats the American's hand off.

WIDE AWAKE.

SUNDAY SCHOOL DEMONSTRATION.

Under the auspices of the North London Sunday School Union a demonstration took place in Finsbury Park yesterday afternoon, and was participated in by the scholars and their teachers from 26 schools. The proceedings consisted of addresses by the President of the Union (Mr. C. J. Cuthbertson, C.C.), and Archdeacon Sinclair, musical drill, and gymnastic displays by the children, while Col. Sewell, and Capt. Day, of the London Rifle Brigade, in the absence of Maj.-gen. Macmillan, presented banners to the two successful schools making the best appearance on

## MILITARY TOURNAMENT

## YESTERDAY'S PROCEEDINGS AT THE AGRICULTURAL HALL.

Mr. A. Gillie won the champion prize at Berwick horse show.

Leeds coal is to be reduced in price.

Joe Stanley was at Pontefract fined £1 and costs for street bunting.

John Tyree, Finsbury, a keen salmon fisher, has concluded two generations of Lancashire, died at Buxton.

Arthur Tyree, John Miller, and Frank Tyree, were remanded at Wednesday, charged with theft.

A notice was issued by the Newbattle Colliery of a reduction of 1s. per ton on the various classes of coal.

Shamrock II, left her moorings at Ryde, and was towed to Southampton to be dry docked.

Sarah Jades, daughter of a laundryman at Warwick, fell down stairs and broke her neck.

Hy. Fairchild, alias Hennet, was at Bristol committed for trial on a charge of obtaining £50 by false pretences.

The Duke of Devonshire presided at the annual meeting of the Devonshire Hospital at Buxton.

The Central Clubhouse, Swindon, was broken into and about £100 stolen from the safe.

Isabella Maldon, 37, wife of a soldier, was remanded at York charged with having attempted to commit suicide.

Ishmael Braithwaite, representing himself as a stage manager, was remanded at Blackburn on charges of fraud.

A man was seen to throw himself in front of a train near Bury, on the L. & Y. Ry. He was picked up an unscathed by the men.

The Cork garrison agreed to return to work on the old terms, provided the men who filled their places are dismissed.

Wm. Wheat, against whom were several previous convictions, was, at Nottingham, sentenced to 14 days for stealing a shirt hanging out to dry on a line.

## FOREIGN.

The a.m. Northdown sailed from Chicago yesterday with a cargo for Antwerp and Hamburg—Ruter.

The session of the first Cretan Chamber of Deputies was formally opened at Candia yesterday by Prince George—Ruter.

The purchase of the network of railways on the north-east of Switzerland by the Confederation Government has been effected—Central News.

The Eighth International Exhibition of Art was opened at Munich yesterday by the Prince Regent—Ruter.

The French Government has placed orders at Havre for two destroyers and two seagoing torpedo boats to be laid down at once and proceeded with as rapidly as possible—Danish.

## FIVE HORSE THIEVES LYNNED.

New York, June 1.—A despatch to the New York "Sun" from San Francisco says that a body of 50 stock raisers at Lookout yesterday went to the local jail and removed by force five men arrested upon charges of horse stealing. They took the men to the bridge in the town, and there hanged them. The district has hitherto been specially noted for its maintenance of perfect order. A later telegram from Lookout states that the five men lynched included a father and three of his sons—Central News.

## THEATRE.

The most prominent feature at every tournament is undoubtedly the pageant, and much care is always taken in its preparation. This year the augmentation of the Australian Commonwealth has afforded the simplest opportunity for gorgeous colouring, and full advantage has been taken of this historic ceremony by having a parade of the troops who were present at it. This adds to the effectiveness of the pageant, which reflects great credit on Col. Ricardo.

A most useful innovation is a blind which drops above the entrance of the arena, displaying the name of each corps as it makes its entrance. So the racial characteristics of each body of troops is faithfully reproduced. Those of the natives of India have been caught with remarkable fidelity by the men who represent the various types of the Indian Army. Similarly the Colonials, though soldiers of the British, as apart from the Imperial Army, are closely typical of the colonial soldiery; even to the sun tan so characteristic of our brethren from over the sea. It is interesting to remark in passing that in the ranks of the New South Wales Mounted Rifles rides Sergt. Englehardt, of the 10th Hussars, who won the coveted V.C. by conspicuous gallantry, just before our troops victoriously entered Bloemfontein. This gallant officer, with a warm welcome. When the whole of the troops had entered the arena the blaze of the various uniforms rendered the scene most effective, and caused much enthusiasm; showing as it did the variety and grand physique of the defenders of our world-wide Empire.

## PRIZE WINNERS.

The next competition was the finale in Sword (mounted) v. Bayonet, which resulted as follows:—Col.-sergt. Read, 2nd S. Middlesex R.V., 1st prize; Sergt. Keen, Bucks Imp. Ry., 2nd; Col.-sergt. Larkby, 1st Middlesex R.V., 3rd; and Sergt. Brett, 12th Middlesex R.V., 4th. After excellent musical rides by the 1st Life Guards, and the "V" Battery R.H.A., and an amusing exhibition of wrestling on horseback, came the grand display of all arms. It represents an attack by hillmen on a frontier village in India during the progress of a gymkhana. This is the first time that sports have been introduced into the arena, and the most corrupt, and sinful place, earth—and of those in Veneus there is one quite sweet of voice, Miss Lena Maitland, whose singing was a most agreeable feature of the performance. The piece looks nothing of beauty and elegance in mounting, and the last scene, a ball in the Turkey Room of the Arts Club, Paris, is a picture full of light and colour.

## A SLIGHT ACCIDENT.

In the evening some excitement was caused owing to several of the horses in riding and jumping competitions falling to the ground.

Several of the animals when the competition was over, were still on the barries and the horses stood stock still, while in one case the horse caught its foot in the woodwork and fell, throwing its rider to the ground. The latter, however, was fortunately unharmed.

The winners in this competition were the 1st team 19th Middlesex, 2nd, M.V. 1st, and the 1st team of the 4th V.H.A. West Surrey, Ryd. In the contest of sword, 2nd (mounted) Sergt. Bonham, swing to the absence of Serge English, obtained a try, and will meet

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## "THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

In London 8,535 births and 1,264 deaths were registered last week. The births were two above and the deaths 200 below the average. The annual death-rate per 1,000 from all causes further fell last week to 15.7. The 1,264 deaths included 46 from measles, 18 from scarlet fever, 22 from diphtheria, and 39 from whooping-cough. Different forms of violence caused 65 deaths. Of these nine were suicides and five homicides, while the remaining 51 were attributed to accident or negligence.

In Greater London 3,725 births and 1,262 deaths were registered, corresponding to annual rates of 29.8 and 12.6 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

The deaths registered last week in 81 great towns of England and Wales corresponded to an annual rate of 16.7 per 1,000 of their aggregate population, which is estimated at 11,641,187 persons in the middle of this year.

A horse eats nine times its weight in feed in a year; a sheep six times.

Holland is the only European country that admits coffee duty free.

There are 11,700 hotels in Paris, in which there are on average 240,000 guests.

The skin of an adult man spread out on a smooth surface would cover 15 square feet.

The Army death-rate is lower in Great Britain than in any country. In France it is nearly six times as high.

The Czar of Russia owns the largest landed estate in the world. It is about 100 million acres in extent.

On 172 miles of its line the St. Gotthard Railway has 284 large bridges and 1,050 artificial structures. The line cost 200,000 a mile.

A clock that will run for two years with one winding has been invented by a jeweller in the United States. It is operated by weights.

While repairing a temple, the Chinese cover up the eyes of the idols, in order that the deities may not be offended at the sight of the disorder.

The combined imports and exports of the United Kingdom were valued at £515,000,000 last year, these of Germany 472 millions, of Italy 162 millions.

The Marie Richmon, one of the largest of British sailing ships, has over four miles of steel wire in her rigging, and six miles of running cordage.

London's fire brigades put out a fire at an average cost of £25. New York pays £125 for the same service, and Cincinnati, America, holds the record with £225 per fire.

The population of the Channel Islands has altered less than that of any other part of the United Kingdom in the past 50 years. It was 90,739 in 1851. It amounted to 105.8 per cent. against 8.2 per cent. in the next 10 years.

When a word is on her trial trip she runs four times over a measured mile, twice with and twice against the tide. Her average speed is thus arrived at.

It is estimated that 1,260,700 people would qualify for old age pension in the United Kingdom if the Old Age Pension Bill became law, and that this cost would be £12,300,000 a year.

About 10 million cattle are now to be found in the Argentine Republic. They are said to be all descendants of eight cows and one bull, which were brought to Brazil in the 16th century.

South Wales raises more coal than any other part of Great Britain, nearly 25 million tons a year. Twenty-seven millions come from Midland collieries, and 20 millions from York and Lincolnshire.

The United States, with 67 million quarters, stands first as a wheat-growing country. Russia comes next, with 42 millions; France third, with 37 millions; India fourth, with 30 millions.

No man has ever reigned over an empire so vast as King Edward's. His Majesty rules over at least one continent, 100 peninsulas, 360 promontories, 1,200 lakes, 2,000 rivers, and 10,000 islands.

Northern forests are neither so large nor so numerous as those seen in the southern waters, but they are really softer and more beautiful, with spires and domes, and, when the snows are on them, they look like a fairy city.

The butterfly invariably goes to sleep head downwards. It folds and contracts its wings to the utmost. It then resembles a narrow ridge, hardly distinguishable in shape and colour from the seed heads and leaves on the thousands of stems surrounding it.

All the flags for British ships of war, except the Royal Standards, are made in the Government dockyards, and the enormous number required may be judged from the fact that in the colour loft at Chatham alone about 15,000 flags are made in a year.

Until the time of Charles XII. of Sweden the artillery was not considered a part of the Swedish army, and the men serving it were not soldiers, but were regarded as mechanics; the officers also army rank. Charles XII. regularly organised the artillery into companies.

A rose diamond is one which is not sufficiently deep to admit of regular cutting, and which, to save as much as possible of the stone, has been cut flat underneath, instead of to a point, as in the case of a brilliant. This variety of diamond is only about one-quarter the value of a brilliant of similar size and weight.

March is a most eventful month for Royalty. The King was married on March 10, 1853. Princess Louise on March 21, 1871, and her birthday falls on March 18. The Duke of Cambridge was born March 28, 1819. On March 16, 1894, the Duke of Albany died, and in March, 1861, Queen Victoria's mother died.

The famous Blue Grotto of Capri has now a rival in the State of Minnesota, U.S.A. It occurs in a cleft on the shore of which there is a cavern of white limestone flooded with water. A swimmer entering the cave and turning to look outwards sees the most beautiful shades of green and blue in the water, and a silvery sheen over his submerged limbs.

It is said that the Bank of France has an invisible studio in a gallery behind the cashiers, on which at a given instant from one of them any suspected customer can instantly receive his photograph taken without his knowledge. The camera has also been very useful in the detection of frauds, a word or figure that to the eye seemed completely erased being clearly reproduced in photographs of the document that had been tampered with.

## PEOPLE'S HEROES-CLVI.

A PLUCKY CONSTABLE.

We here give a portrait of P.C. Arthur David Steward, 107 X, who recently displayed such heroism as to entitle him to a place in the list of "People's Heroes." Peter King, a blind youth, also partially deaf and epileptic, the son of poor parents living in a small cottage in Highbury, Willesden, was left alone last Saturday, and shortly after the house was discovered to be on fire. P.C. Steward reached the scene within

5 minutes of being called. Looking through the door of the bedroom, on the ground floor, he could just discern amidst the smoke and flames the body of the youth near the fireplace. Our hero fearlessly rushed in,

but was beaten back by the intensity of the heat and dense smoke. Recovering himself, he made a second dash into the blazing room, but was again overpowered, and barely escaped the falling, blazing ceiling, which buried beneath it what must have been the already dead body of the lad. At the instant, held at the Willows Vestry Hall this week, before Dr. Gordon Lyle, on the charged remains of the ranks gained their commissions probably during the time that Lord Grantham was War Minister, when British troops were strenuously engaged all over the world. And everyone knew that it is in the time that rapid promotion comes to the private soldier as in the officer.

(2) In Cobbett's day, and indeed up to about 30 years ago, a very great number of the adjutants of infantry regiments were held by officers who had risen from the ranks. The extra pay as adjutant enabled a man without means more successfully to meet his expenses. As to quartermasters in Cobbett's day, and even at the present time, they are chosen from the non-commissioned officers.

(4) Certainly there is more chance now than ever for the private soldier to rise from the ranks. Where there was one commission open to the ranks in Cobbett's day, there are now at least twenty. With good character, and the necessary amount of education, there is nothing now that can stop a man obtaining a commission from the ranks. His only difficulty is the expense; and I can see no reason why the State should not give the private soldier who rises from the ranks a gratuity of from £50 to £100 a year for life. In all professions, except the military, there are scholarships to help the needy in their pursuit of fame and distinction. Why is the nobility profession of all left out in the cold? The truth is that the Army is the most aristocratic and exclusive institution in the country. Whether it is for the country's good is a very debatable point. I am inclined to think that we had better leave well alone.—With apologies, yours faithfully,

ANTHONY DAVID STEWARD.

The officer whom Cobbett mentions as having in his day risen from the ranks gained their commissions probably during the time that Lord Grantham was War Minister, when British troops were strenuously engaged all over the world. And everyone knew that it is in the time that rapid promotion comes to the private soldier as in the officer.

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## FIENDISH MURDER

## AT THE SCENE OF THE "RIPPER" CRIMES.

## MURDERER ESCAPES. SAD STORY OF A MISTAKEN LIFE.

Within a stone's throw of the house in which Mary Kelly was murdered and mutilated in Nov. 1888, when the police and public alike were staggered by that extraordinary series of atrocities known as the "Ripper" murders, a tragedy of a somewhat similar nature has taken place. Dorset-st., Spitalfields, the scene of the murder, is a narrow thoroughfare, containing a few dingy shops and many common lodging-houses, the resorts of some of the poorest inhabitants of Whitechapel. Almost deserted during the day, the street presents at night an appearance of extraordinary activity, hundreds of men and women of all nationalities availing themselves of the cheap accommodation offered by the lodging-houses, while the penniless denizens of the district sleep undisturbed by the authorities in the gutters and doorways. At present

## THE POLICE ARE STUPID

by the peculiar nature of the tragedy, and the cosmopolitan character of the population in that neighbourhood only makes their task more difficult. It is clear, however, that on Saturday night a woman named Annie Austin, aged 29, cohabited with a man whose identity so far is unknown, a small cubicle at 37, Dorset-st., and that on Sunday morning the woman was found alone, suffering from wounds in the lower part of the body. The injuries, which are of too revolting a character for description, had evidently been inflicted with a sharp instrument.

Austin was at once removed to the London Hospital, where she died early on Monday morning. Curiously enough the police

KNOW NOTHING OF THE TRAGEDY until, after the lapse of many hours, when the hospital authorities communicated with them. In this way the murderer obtained several hours' start before the work of investigation began, and the difficulties of the police were enhanced by the proprietor of the lodging-house being unable to assist the detectives in charge of the case with a description of the missing man.

In conversation with the manager of the lodging-house, the scene of the tragedy, said: "We have 72 cubicles here, each one for the accommodation of two people. We are generally full up at night, and as half the lodgers are entire strangers or casual customers we never pay particular attention to persons looks so long as they properly behave themselves. On Saturday night I received most of the lodgers. As I don't go to bed throughout the night I should have known any unusual commotion or screaming upstairs, but I heard nothing whatever. No one can get out of the house until I unlock the front door at five o'clock, and after that time

THE WOMAN GRADUALLY RECOVERS. Strange to say, the murderer must have passed me as he went out, for I stood in the passage smoking a long time after I had opened the door. No one showed in their manner, however, that anything was amiss, and the first intimation I had of the trouble upstairs was when one of our regular women lodgers came down and told me that as she passed the second landing she heard deep groans coming from one of the cubicles, the door of which was half open." With his wife the manager went to the cubicle and there discovered the tragedy. The woman Austin, the manager added, was

SCARCELY CAPABLE OF SPEECH, and could only mutter, "I am bad; what can I do? help me." The pursuit of the murderer is being conducted by principal detectives from Scotland-yard, and throughout the night the pursuers made careful search at many lodging-houses. The police have so far no accurate knowledge of the man's personal appearance, but on the statements of people supposed to have seen him enter the house on Saturday night, he is a short, dark, thick-set man, with a somewhat Jewish type of features. The woman Austin is not well known in Spitalfields. She is described as being respectably dressed and altogether above the ordinary type of woman usually to be seen in Whitechapel lodging-houses.

"A SHAME NAME MAN." A man who stayed at the lodgings has stated: "I saw the woman Austin taken out of the lodging-house on Sunday morning. I had followed her and a man into the house overnight. I was with another woman. At the door Austin's companion, a short, dark man, about 40 years of age, asked Austin to go to a public-house in Dorset-st., and have a drink before going to bed, but the woman objected, and with the man went upstairs. What part of the house they went to I don't know. I could not sleep all night, but beyond loud voices I heard nothing. Austin's companion had a silver ring on his left hand, wore a grey check cap, and had a red and black scarf around his neck."

INQUEST OPENED. The police not informed for 26 hours. At Stepney on Wednesday, Mr. Baxter opened the inquest on Mary Ann Austin, aged 29. The news of the dreadful tragedy was not made known until after the woman's death in the London Hospital on Monday morning, and the police had no notice of the affair until 26 hours after it happened. The hospital authorities were the first to put the police in motion, and they telephoned to the nearest police station in the City, being unable to communicate with the metropolitan force, who still decline the use of telephones. Mr. Austin, casual labourer, formerly a stoker, and recently a navvy, identified the body of deceased as that of his wife. They had been married eight years, and had had three children, two of whom are alive. They last had a home in Battersby-st., Chelsea, and had since lived in Kersey-st., Poplar, and Dorset-st. His wife had

EVERY WAY TO SUFFER, and was quarrelsome, and they separated on May 18 or 19. Deceased said she could always do better by herself than with him, and he thought he would give her a trial. He kept one little girl, and his wife had the youngest, Frances, aged three. He did not know where Frances was now. Lately he had been living in Battersby-st., and slept in a van on Saturday night. He first heard of the murder on Tuesday morning, when a friend was reading the paper, and

he then communicated with the police, who told him to walk to Whitechapel.

THE DEFECT KNOWS NOTHING.

—Mr. Moore, deputy of the common lodging-house, where the crime was committed, said the place contained four single and 45 double beds. On Saturday night deceased came with a man and occupied a cubicle on the first floor. All the cubicles were filled. He took no notice of the man, and could not describe or identify him. When the woman's condition was discovered he summoned Dr. Dale, and she was removed to the London Hospital in a cab. The doctor did not tell him to call in the police. "Did you not know it was your duty as citizen to summon the police? No, I did not know what to do. I did not think a crime had been committed."

THE LANDLORD OF THE HOUSE is Mr. Crookshank, and the manager Mr. Barney Lipman. "Did you give the cabman 2s to keep his mouth shut?" No. —Mrs. Moore, wife of last witness, corroborated. Deceased was perfectly nude when found, and the bed was covered with blood. Deceased said the man who had been with her had inflicted the injuries. —Coroner: "Why did you not tell the police a fellow-woman had been served in this brutal manner, and see that justice was done?" —No. —Of course the woman was put into the cab carefully, and not rolled downstairs? Yes. —Coroner: "It has been suggested to me that she was put in like a bundle of rags." —Witness: "No, she was not. The man was about 40 years of age; short and dark. He was not a foreigner." —Frances Davis, laundress, said she lived at the lodging-house, and found deceased groaning in bed about eight in the morning. Austin said the man had stabbed her. There had

BY NIGHTLY BEEN A STRUGGLE. —Dr. C. B. Dale said he was called to see the injured woman about 8.30 a.m. on Sunday. She said she screamed out. She told the man he had stabbed her, but he denied it. Witness dressed the exterior wound, and the latter of a very heavy description, being held up by a stout leather belt. Austin has a peculiar shuffling gait, and is very loose in all his joints, so that he could easily be identified. Whilst giving his evidence the prosecution poured down on the night of the murder. He is a tall, powerful, dark man, about 5ft. in height, with a close-cropped head of hair, a thick dark mustache, and a week's growth of beard, which gave him a very unkempt appearance. He was well dressed, for a casual labourer, in a dark coat and corduroy waistcoat, and trousers, the latter of a very heavy description, being held up by a stout leather belt. Austin has a peculiar shuffling gait, and is very loose in all his joints, so that he could easily be identified. 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